

# MINUTES EXTRACT

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: THURSDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2002 at 5.30pm

## PRESENT:

Councillor Blackmore - Chair
Councillor Mrs. Middleton - Conservative Spokesperson
Councillor Connelly - Labour Spokesperson

Councillor Coley

Councillor Gajjar

Councillor Soulsby

## **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Patel – Cabinet Lead Member for Finance and Resources

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#### 62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were requested to declare any interests that they may have in the business to be discussed and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Act 1992 applied to them.

No declarations were made.

#### 75. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF PAYROLL

The Chief Finance Officer submitted a report advising the Committee of the findings of the Best Value review of payroll, which was considered by the Best Value Working Group on 11 December, and scheduled to be considered by Cabinet on 27 January.

A question was raised by the Committee about a possible situation of a supplier being appointed and subsequently going into liquidation (as was the situation in Housing Benefits). It was noted that the long term strength of any contractor would be assessed as part of the selection process, and the need to protect the Council from this situation was recognised and measures would be taken to minimise exposure and provide contingency measures.

### RESOLVED:

(1) That the report be noted, and,

(2) That the Committee recommend to Cabinet that option 3.4 (c) (an application service provide solution) be the preferred option, but that full consideration be given to minimising the risks in the event of the supplier ceasing to exist.